

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 20, 67, 68 and 70 are pending in the present application. Claims 20 and 67 were allowed and claims 68 and 70 were rejected in the Office Action. Claims 68 and 70 have been canceled and new claims 72-84 have been added. Claim 20 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request re-examination and reconsideration of the pending claims.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 68 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Oz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,269,819). Without conceding the issue of patentability and for the purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application, claim 68 has been canceled without prejudice to refiling in a subsequent application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 70 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huebsch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,117,159) in view of Laufer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,810,847) and further in view of Oz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,269,819). Without conceding the issue of patentability and for the purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application, claim 70 has been canceled without prejudice to refiling in a subsequent application.

New Claims

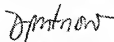
New claims 72-85 have been added. Support for these claims may be found in independent claim 20 and dependent claims 16, 19, 21-24, 61-66 and 70-71, therefore no new matter has been added. Claims 72-85 are believed to be patentable over the cited references for the following reasons. Claims 72-77 depend from allowable independent claim 20 and claims 78-85 depend from allowable independent claim 67.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas Portnow
Reg. No. 59,660

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
D3P:jke
61021018 v1